

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The references cited on attached Form PTO-SB08 are being called to the attention of the Examiner.

- Copies of the cited non-patent and/or foreign references are enclosed herewith.
 - Copies of the cited U.S. patents and/or patent applications are enclosed herewith.
 - Copies of the cited U.S. patents/patent application publications are not enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a).
 - Copies of the cited references are not enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), because the references were cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in prior application Serial No. _____ filed _____, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.
 - To the best of applicants' belief, the pertinence of the foreign-language references are

believed to be summarized in the attached English abstracts and in the figures, although applicants do not necessarily vouch for the accuracy of the translation.

Examiner's attention is drawn to the following co-pending applications, copies of which have been or are being submitted:

Serial No. _____ filed _____

Serial No. _____ filed _____

Other: _____

Submission of the above information is not intended as an admission that any item is citable under the statutes or rules to support a rejection, that any item disclosed represents analogous art, or that those skilled in the art would refer to or recognize the pertinence of any reference without the benefit of hindsight, nor should an inference be drawn as to the pertinence of the references based on the order in which they are presented. Submission of this statement should not be taken as an indication that a search has been conducted, or that no better art exists.

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and the references made of record therein.

FEES

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>37 CFR 1.97(b): No fee is believed due in connection with this submission, because the information disclosure statement submitted herewith satisfies one of the following conditions ("X" indicates satisfaction):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d), or<input type="checkbox"/> Within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of an international application as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 or<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or<input type="checkbox"/> Before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 <p>Although no fee is believed due, if any fee is deemed due in connection with this submission, please charge such fee to Deposit Account 19-1970</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>37 CFR 1.97(c): The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed after all the above conditions (37 CFR 1.97(b)), but before the mailing date of one of the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) a final action under 37 C.F.R. 1.113 or(2) a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. 1.311, or(3) an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. <p>This Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> A Certification (below) as specified by 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e). Although no fee is believed due, if any fee is deemed due in connection with this submission, please charge such fee to Deposit Account 19-1970. OR<input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account 19-1970 in the amount of \$180.00 for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement. Please credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to Deposit Account 19-1970

37 CFR 1.97(d): This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(c).

This information Disclosure Statement includes a Certification (below) as specified by 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)
AND

Applicants hereby requests consideration of the reference(s) disclosed herein. Please charge Deposit Account 19-1970 in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). Please credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to Deposit Account 19-1970. Election to pay the fee should not be taken as an indication that applicant(s) cannot execute a certification

Certification (37 C.F.R. 1.97(e))
(Applicable only if checked)

- The undersigned certifies that:
- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1).
- A copy of the communication from the foreign patent office is enclosed.

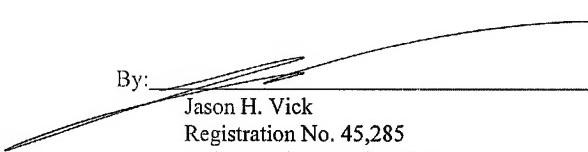
OR

- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(2).

Respectfully submitted,

SHERIDAN ROSS P.C.

By:


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(303) 863-9700

Date: 10 Jan 07

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number	10/599,169
				Filing Date	09/21/2006
				First Named Inventor	Shinya Nagata
				Art Unit	Not yet assigned
				Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	5553NA4-I

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-kind Code <small>2 if known</small>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
1		6,453,186	09-17-2002	Lovejoy et al.	
2		5,868,671	02-09-1999	Mahoney	
3		4,809,699	03-07-1988	Shimizu et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ ; Number ⁴ ; Kind Code ⁵ <small>(if known)</small>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
	4	JP 2002-325740	11-12-2002	GE MEDICAL SYSTEMS		Abstract and Application is believed to correspond to U.S. Patent No. 6,453,186 cited above
	5	JP HEI10(1998)-2111179	08-11-1998	HEWLETT PACKARD CO		Abstract and Application is believed to correspond to U.S. Patent No. 5,868,671 cited above
	6	JP HEI6(1994)-197876	07-19-1994	HERNANDEZ HERRERO JUAN		Abstract
	7	JP HEI3(1991)-116805	12-03-1991			Abstract
	8	JP HEI3(1991)-33605	04-03-1991			Abstract
	9	JP SHO63(1988)-44011 Y	11-16-1988			Abstract
	10	JP 2002-159458	06-04-2002	FUKUDA DENSHI CO LTD		Abstract and part [0029] – [0034]

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number	10/599,169
				Filing Date	09/21/2006
				First Named Inventor	Shinya Nagata
				Art Unit	Not yet assigned
				Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	5553NA4-I

	11	JP HEI11(1999)-128187 A	05-18-1999	GUNZE LTD		Abstract and part [0022] and [0028]
	12	JP HEI9(1997)-271466 A	10-21-1997	NIPPON SYST HOUSE KK		Abstract
	13	JP SHO53(1978)-93681 A	08-16-1978			Abstract
	14	JP 2600950 Y	11-02-1999			Abstract
	15	JP HEI2(1990)-009771 Y	03-12-1990			Application is believed to correspond to U.S. Patent No. 4,809,699 cited above
	16	JP HEI6(1994)-261871 A	09-20-1994	DAINIPPON PHARMACEUT CO LTD		Abstract
	17	JP HEI2(1990)-139608 U	11-21-1990			Abstract
	18	JP 2002-053141 A	02-05-2002	HICHI YASUTAKE OMURA TORYO KK		Abstract, part [0030]-[0040] and Figs. 2-6
	19	JP HEI10(1998)-99299 A	04-21-1998	AGENCY OF IND SCIENCE & TECHNOL		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.